

California State Journal of Medicine.

Owned and Published Monthly by the

Medical Society of the State of California

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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All Scientific Papers submitted for Publication must be Typewritten.

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VOL. XI FEBRUARY, 1913. No. 2

EDITORIAL NOTES

THE LEGISLATURE.

At the time of writing it is impossible to say just what has been proposed in the way of medical legislation, though some things are quite apparent. The usual attempt is to be made to secure special boards of examiners in almost every sort of freak cult. A number of bills have been drawn which may or may not be introduced; one of them provides an entirely new medical law on an entirely new plan, but no copy of the bill has as yet come to our attention. Another proposed law provides for separate boards of examiners for regulars, homeopaths, eclectics, osteopaths, naturopaths and divine healers! An amendment, approved by the Board of Medical Examiners and by the attorneys for the State Society, providing for license without examination in this state of those who have had a bona fide preliminary and medical education not less than that required under our present standards and who have been licensed after a satisfactory examination in their home state, has been introduced. This is the only form of reciprocity that the State Society could possibly endorse. Of course, many of those who have failed to pass the examination of our board are clamoring for a wide-open reciprocity; an amendment that will allow anyone licensed to practice medicine anywhere, to come here and get a license without examination. That is wrong for the reason that there are so many people practicing medicine, and licensed to do so in some one or more states, who never had any medical education to speak of and whose license was secured by merely filing a diploma, which may have been purchased from a "diploma mill" at a cost of from \$50 to \$150. It is only in the last twenty-two years that there has been

any control of medical schools or of medical licensure in the United States, and even now, in many states, what control exists is more theoretical than actual. Many of our legislators do not seem to know these things; many of them seem to think that anyone should have a whack at the business of medicine; they forget that it is a profession dealing with life and death and that the people should be protected as much as possible against incompetence and ignorance.

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.

UNPLEASANT PUBLICITY.

It must have been exceedingly unpleasant for Parke, Davis & Co., to have *Pearson's Magazine*, in its January number, come out with a most deleriously hectic article on the phylacogens of our distinguished fellow citizen, Schafer. The house seems to be quite honest in its desire to study these products carefully and to market them in a proper manner. They had quite a correspondence with *Pearson's*, beginning in October 1912, and have sent out copies of these letters in which they most urgently begged the magazine not to publish the article in question. But it was quite too hectic a morsel for *Pearson's* to relinquish. Strange days are come upon us when laymen, in lay publications, instruct the world, or such portion of it as listens to them and is impressed, on things medical. To be sure, the world needs plenty of instruction on things of medicine and of public health; but are the Arno Dosches to do it or are medical men to do it? This sort of misdirected enthusiasm does infinitely more harm than good. But what's the use! It's the old story; "controversy equalizes fools and wise men—and the fools know it!"

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A VALUABLE (?) PUBLICATION.

A most remarkable publication bearing the title of the *Army and Navy Magazine* has reached the JOURNAL office. The December number states that the subscription price is \$3.00 per year, but a careful examination of that issue would lead one to wonder whether anyone would ever pay money for it or if, on the contrary, he would not demand a good price for reading it. There is a department headed "Medical and Surgical," Arthur Gordon Lewis, Editor, and this "department" is certainly a wonder! The new postal law is evidently working well, in this case, for pages and pages of stuff of the reading-notice sort which otherwise might be taken for actual reading matter, are marked "advertisement"; truly valuable "medical" suggestions! Among them we find an article on that delightful fake, "dioradin," written by H. F. Boatman, M. D., Los Angeles, in which he reports a case of advanced tuberculosis "cured" by the dioradin fake; but the article is decorated with